

## News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### NH Drinking Water Week Proclaimed for May 6 - 12 *Celebration Event Scheduled for Rochester*

Concord, NH — Drinking water is one of New Hampshire's most precious resources, and keeping it safe, clean and abundant through careful management and protection is vital to the state's economy and public health of its residents. To honor this finite resource and celebrate National Drinking Water Week, May 6-12, 2007, the New Hampshire Drinking Water Week Coalition, in conjunction with the N.H. Department of Environmental Services, is sponsoring a water festival, which will be held on May 9 at the Rochester Fairgrounds in Rochester from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Over 500 fourth and fifth grade students from Rochester and Hampton are scheduled to attend. The event is open to the public free of charge, and will be held rain or shine.

Also held at the festival will be the finals for the New Hampshire Fourth Grade Water Science Fair, which will include students from Harrisville, Keene and Manchester.

Exhibits from public and private water systems, consultants, scientists, and government officials will be on display throughout the day and will feature information on water conservation, water testing, and keeping water clean. Students will also participate in hands-on activities to learn about the water cycle, groundwater, and nonpoint source pollution. The ever-popular drinking water tasting contest will pit several municipal water supplies against each other in order to win the title of best tasting water.

Also in attendance will be the National Theatre for Children, a professional drama troupe from Minneapolis. They will perform "Showdown at Dry Gulch." This is an entertaining and educational play for school children teaching them how important water is in our daily lives.

For more information about the festival please visit [www.des.nh.gov/dwgb/waterfest](http://www.des.nh.gov/dwgb/waterfest) or contact Jessica Morton at (603) 271-4071.

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